

HOSEA AND GOMER: A LOVE STORY

Scripture: Hosea 1-3

Materials Needed:

Memory Verse: *Hosea 13:5,6* I cared for you in the desert, in the land of burning heat. When I fed them they were satisfied. When they were satisfied they became proud. Then they forgot me.

Objectives: As a result of this lesson, I want my students

To Know—Even though Hosea’s wife, Gomer, went into prostitution and broke her marriage agreement with Hosea, when she was utterly hopeless and mistreated, Hosea bought her back and cared for her, and after awhile they reestablished their marriage relationship.

To Realize—God used Hosea’s life to show that even when one has turned away from him and forsaken Him, he still loves them and wants them to repent and come back to Him.

To Respond by—not thinking that they’ve done something too bad to make God want them, but to come to God for a close relationship.

Setting up the Story:

Write the word “Prostitute” on the board before the students come in to class. When class starts: “I wish there were a way I could get around this word because this is not something I really enjoy discussing in a class. But there is no way around it. There is no way to understand the message that God is trying to give his people if you do not understand this word. So we are going to look it up in the Student Dictionaries. (Have students look it up and briefly, generally define it.)

I would like to tell you about a “preacher” who married a prostitute. (Note: it is possible that Gomer became a prostitute only after she married Hosea, or it is possible that she had been a prostitute and had left that life in order to marry Hosea. If so, she was now going back into an old life.)

(Tell the story of Hosea as if it were a modern story. Do not use any names, just give the story, and how the preacher heard that she was having troubles, and had a lot of debts and there was no way for her to pay them off. It would have been easy for him to say: I’m never going to help her after what she did to me. After she ruined my reputation! But amazingly enough, this preacher really still did love his wife: even after all she had done to him!...continue telling the following details before going back and filling in the notes.)

Scripture

Telling the story:

- I. Hosea loved Gomer and chose her to be his wife

As you tell the story:

God chose Israel and loved them

	A. Marries Gomer B. Have three children	
II.	Gomer Leaves Hosea and becomes a prostitute A. She gets money from other lovers B. She chases them	Israel leaves God for other gods.
III.	Gomer's "Lovers" Leave Her A. She becomes ugly B. No one wants her	No one helps Israel.
IV.	Hosea Buys Gomer Back but they live separately	God gets Israel back and takes care of them: but they are not close to each other.
V.	Hosea and Gomer Back together	God and Israel love each other.

Concluding the Story:

The story I've told you is a true story. The "preacher's" was really a prophet and his name was Hosea. His wife had an unusual name: Gomer! And the reason God told Hosea to marry Gomer was because he wanted to use everything that happened to Hosea as a way to show Israel what they were doing to HIM! And how much He still loved them!

(Go through worksheet together)